

Council Member Mike Sullivan's Newsletter

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Council Member
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Residents of District E,

As the year winds down, I want to take a minute to thank all of the residents of District E who voted for me in the November 3rd elections. I am both honored and humbled by the results. It is an honor to serve District E and the City of Houston, and I look forward to serving my second term.

It is important that we continue to work on basic constituent services. However, with declining sales tax revenues, projected drops in ad valorem tax revenues and a severe drop in other city revenues (such as permit fees, etc.), it will become increasingly difficult to find money for new projects. As a fiscal conservative, I will not support spending more money than what the city takes in. That is a very difficult stand to take when other council members are voting left and right to spend money on (what I would call) non-essential services. We must control spending and we must do it now.

So, looking ahead to next year, we will have a new mayor. I will sit down with him or her as soon as possible to express the views of my district. I will let him or her know my own personal views and also what is important to my constituents. There is no doubt that both candidates running for mayor know of my fiscal conservatism, my commitment to service my council district and my drive to make government as efficient and responsive as possible. That is what I am known for and that is what you can continue to expect from me after I am sworn in for my second term as your Council Member.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all. Thank you for the privilege to serve you.

Mike Sullivan
Council Member

*Happy Holidays from the
District E Team!*



Neighborhood Protection Updates

In response to numerous complaints from residents, Neighborhood Protection has begun the necessary steps to secure an abandoned house at 2407 Pine Bend in Kingwood. Council Member Sullivan has worked hard and consistently with NPC to get this property properly secured and up to minimum standards. Last month, appropriate steps were taken to drain the pool and fill it in with dirt. Council Member Sullivan will continue to work on restoring the security of this house.

The building at 701 Hamblen Road was recently demolished as it was Council Member Sullivan's initiative to have it removed after the owner refused to make repairs following Hurricane Ike. The owner appeared in municipal court, and agreed with the decision to voluntarily demolish the building.



Council Member Sullivan and Chief Mark Curran with Neighborhood Protection

Riverwood Middle School Pep Rally



Council Member Sullivan congratulates the students and staff of Riverwood Middle School.

Council Member Sullivan presented Riverwood Middle School students and teachers with a certificate of recognition at their winter sports pep rally. The certificate was to congratulate the school on their hard work in achieving an Exemplary rating from the Texas Education Agency. Exemplary is the highest rating given, and Riverwood Middle School was the only middle school in the Humble Independent School District to earn this high achievement.

Kingwood Area Republican Women's Club Meeting

Council Member Sullivan attended the Kingwood Area Republican Women's Club's monthly luncheon on November 18, 2009. The luncheon honored and recognized those heroic Veterans in attendance. Lt Governor David Dewhurst was the invited guest speaker, who acknowledged those veterans and currently serving soldiers, who were in the audience, for their courageous service.

Council Member Sullivan also would like to congratulate Ms. Betty Newton, who was elected as next year's Club President.

Kingwood Library Tour

Council Member Sullivan was given another walk through of the new Kingwood Library on November 24th to see the progress that has been made since his tour in October. The newly constructed 29,500 square foot, LEED certified building is on schedule and will be handed over to Harris County this month. In celebration of the opening, Council Member Sullivan is hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony when the building officially opens in March 2010.

Until the new facility opens, Kingwood residents can continue using the current library located at 4102 Rustic Woods Drive.



Council Member Sullivan speaks with an employee from Spaw Glass.

Elected Officials Church Service

Council Member Sullivan was a distinguished guest at Second Baptist Church's Elected Officials Reception held at their north campus in Kingwood on November 22nd. Second Baptist celebrated a series of "Second Celebrates Houston" Sunday's featuring heroes, leaders and friends of the Houston community as a remembrance of when the Second family opened its doors 23 years ago to various professional and demographic groups that make up the city. The honored guests were recognized during the Sunday's church service with a welcoming reception held afterwards.

Project Updates

- Construction at Kingwood Drive and Green Oak began on December 7th. The work includes improvements to the intersection as well as the installation of a right turn lane.
- Dedicated right turn lanes have been approved for all directions at the intersection of Kingwood Drive and West Lake Houston Parkway.
- The new Kingwood Library will be handed over to Harris County this month.
- Designs are underway for a new community center, which will be located at the old library site.
- Widening of Northpark is under design. Construction is scheduled to begin in April 2010.
- Concrete road repairs are nearly complete on all major thoroughfares.
- An additional \$289,000 has been earmarked for the Kingwood HPD substations for overtime programs and Mobility Response Teams.

Bracewell Library Grand Opening



On Saturday, December 5th, the City of Houston officially opened the doors to the new Bracewell Library located at 9002 Kingspoint Drive. Residents of the South Belt area were invited to the grand opening celebration to learn about upcoming programs and to tour the beautiful facility. Council Member Sullivan would like to thank the Houston Public Library and General Services Department for their hard work and for providing an innovative and well designed library.

Flooding and Drainage Follow Up Town Hall Meeting

On November 17th Council Member Sullivan hosted a follow up regional flooding and drainage town hall meeting for District E South Belt-Ellington residents. Representatives from the U.S. Corps of Engineers, City of Houston and Harris County Flood Control District were in attendance to present updates regarding issues and projects that were presented at the last meeting.

Topics discussed included the Corps Clear Creek project, Harris County Flood Control buy outs, the purchase of land for a potential detention pond and recent construction as it relates to flooding in the area.

Council Member Sullivan will host another flooding and drainage meeting in six months.



Council Member Sullivan reviews take away points from last meeting.

HPD Specials Olympics Fundraiser



HPD "Pirate Officer" and Council Member Mike Sullivan

More than 50 officers from the Houston Police Department and area law enforcement agencies donated their time October 24th to host a "pirate themed" car wash fundraiser at CARisma Wash benefiting the Special Olympics. Council Member Sullivan stopped by to have his car washed and to show his support for these officers, all of whom were volunteering their time for charity. The hard work of the officers paid off. They helped raise over \$3,300 to go towards the organization.

Project Updates

- Edgebrook construction is complete and now open.
- Sagemont Community Center design work is underway.
- Outdoor lighting for Law Park has been approved and will be installed in early 2010.
- South Shaver extension paving is planned to start in summer 2010. TXDOT will manage the project for the City of Houston.
- The new 12,000 square foot and LEED Silver certified J.S. Bracewell Library opened December 5, 2009.
- Monroe Road improvements are complete from Fuqua to Beltway 8.
- METRO has added additional bus trips to the afternoon Fuqua Park and Ride service.
- METRO has added more space to park at the South Point Park & Ride lot. The build out is expected to be completed in the spring, and will offer a total of 766 parking spaces to patrons.

Houston Fire Fighters Retirement Ceremony

The firefighters of Station 93 invited Council Member Sullivan to a retirement celebration honoring Sr. Captain Wayne Shelton, Firefighter Michael Girardi and Firefighter Willie Swainier. The celebration recognized the three for their decades of service to the citizens of Houston. Council Member Sullivan ate dinner with the crew and their families and presented all of them with a certificate of appreciation for all of their hard work they contributed on behalf of the citizens.

Council Member Sullivan would like to thank Station 93 for their warm welcome and hospitality.



Council Member Sullivan pictured with the three retirees.

Pinebrook HOA Meeting

The board and residents of the Pinebrook Homeowners Association invited and welcomed Council Member Sullivan to attend and speak at their Annual Meeting held on November 11, 2009 at Brookwood Elementary School. Council Member Sullivan discussed updates on projects happening in District E and events to come in the near future.

Council Member Sullivan would like to thank the Board of Directors for inviting him.

Texas Citizens Bank Ribbon Cutting

Councilmember Sullivan joined the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce in celebrating the opening of Texas Citizens National Bank. The ceremony included a ribbon cutting and reception for the employees, bank patrons and the residents of Clear Lake. Council Member Sullivan helped welcome their newest bank branch to the Clear Lake community.

Texas Citizen's Bank is a local bank with branches in Clear Lake and Pasadena.



Council Member Sullivan and Chamber President Cindy Harreld

Congressman Pete Olson Hosts Health Care Meeting



Councilmember Sullivan joined several Bay Area doctors and physicians at a meeting hosted by Congressman Pete Olson at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center. The meeting focused on the climate of healthcare reform and was meant to get a doctor's point on view on the activity that is going on in Washington. Given the enormous importance of the topic Councilmember Sullivan attended to show his support to both the hospital and the doctors who practice there.

**Pictured: Council Member Sullivan and CEO of Clear Lake Regional Stephen K. Jones*

CCISD Annual Cities and Schools Event



Council Member Sullivan and School Board Member Robert Davee

Council Member Sullivan recently attended Clear Creek Independent School District's Annual Cities and Schools Event at Sandra Mossman Elementary School located at the newly constructed Education Village. CCISD Superintendant, Dr. Greg Smith, presented current school district ratings and information from a recently completed demographic report to elected officials and representatives from surrounding municipalities. The luncheon was organized as a platform for the school district to engage with these different municipalities about different opportunities and challenges they both may have.

Project Updates

- Railroad crossings along Highway 3 at Clear Lake City Blvd., Pineloch and El Dorado have been repaired.
- Concrete repairs have been completed on all major Clear Lake area thoroughfares.
- \$250,000 in overtime has been designated for use by HPD Clear Lake substation.
- Ellington Airport has almost \$50 million dollars in military construction projects now underway.
- Council Member Sullivan received the Clear Lake traffic operations study draft. The final report should be ready by January 1, 2010.

2010 March of Dimes Press Conference

On November 17, Council Member Sullivan attended a March of Dimes reception at Webber Plaza with University of Texas Medical School employees and students. The event was hosted by President Dr. Larry Kaiser and Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System Dan Wolterman who announced the 2010 March of Dimes March for Babies. Doctors Jose Garcia and Sean Blackwell of the UT Medical School also attended the event to provide information on the important topic of premature babies.

The annual March of Dimes walk is scheduled for Sunday, April 25, 2010. District E plans to enter a team.



KPRC's Kambrell Marshall and Council Member Sullivan

Houston Fire Department's Annual Toy Drive

Council Member Sullivan would like to remind District E that the Houston Fire Department (HFD) will be hosting their annual HFD Operation Outreach Stocking Stuffer Toy Drive in an effort to provide children in need of toys. The HFD will be working with local nonprofit agencies to collect new, unwrapped toys from December 2-18, 2009. You can drop off your toy donation at any HFD Fire Station.

A complete list of stations and maps to their locations is available at www.houstonfire.com. You may also contact the HFD Public Affairs Office at 713-495-7900 for more information.

HPD Mounted Patrol and K-9 Headquarters Ribbon Cutting



Assistant Chief V.L. King, Council Member Sullivan, Assistant Chief Munden and General Services Director Issa Dadoush

On October 16, 2009, the Houston Police Department Mounted Patrol/Canine Facility opened their new headquarters at 5005 Little York. Council Member Sullivan lent his support for its construction and helped celebrate the opening of the new building with other city officials. The new \$8 million facility allows for more room and is easily accessible to the community.

Today, the Mounted Patrol Detail is part of the Special Operations Division, under the Tactical Support Command, and has established itself as an undeniable asset to the Houston Police Department and the Houston community.

The Mounted Patrol Detail has participated in many events in District E. Council Member Sullivan rode with them in this year's 4th of July Parade in Kingwood. They also recently rode in the Huffman ISD Homecoming Parade.

Please contact the District E office if you're interested in having the Mounted Patrol participate in your community events.

New Hours for Neighborhood Depository and Recycling Centers

Due to the end of daylight savings, the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) has changed the hours of operation for the four neighborhood depositories. This includes both heavy trash and recycling drop-off sites. Council Member Mike Sullivan considers the safety of his constituents to be of the highest priority and therefore, would like to remind District E that the locations listed below will be open seven days per week, excluding holidays, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SWMD Heavy Trash Despository Sites include:

| | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| Northeast | 5565 Kirkpatrick | 713.675.3208 | Northwest | 6023 Windfern | 713.895.1003 |
| Southeast | 2240 Central | 713.847.1188 | South | 5100 Sunbeam | 713.738.1936 |

To read and review SWMD's rules and regulations regarding the disposal of heavy trash, please visit their website at <http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste>.

Heavy Trash

Please note that this month Solid Waste will pick up **Junk Waste**. Junk Waste is defined as items such as furniture, appliances, and other bulky material. Junk Waste may not be placed for collection during a **Tree Waste Month**. For more information please visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste.

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